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Language Development Committee Meeting--2 April 1959

Meeting No. 24

Present: Miss []

-Baird, []

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[] opened the meeting by giving a summation of the accomplishments made by the Committee.

1. Language Qualifications Register
2. Publication of Regulation and Handbook
3. VLTP began 6th trimester--possibility of changing to semester system
4. Testing record is good - completed proficiency testing on time
5. Started on comprehensive program - working well
6. Recommendations submitted to DTR on tightening up on the administration of the Program - still room for discussion on this
7. Added to the list 9 new languages

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Chairmanship was turned over to [] - meeting was open for general discussion

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Mr. Baird: Discussed the problem of budgeting for the Program. "I feel something should be done to cut down the amount of awards being given." Discussed letter from [] about the man who was penalized for not having to put any effort into maintaining his language competence. DTR wanted to know if we were right in not awarding a maintenance stipend for those who maintain proficiency even if it is without effort; and are we rewarding too many people in too many languages for a proficiency which has no real use to the Agency.

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[] Discussed giving bonuses...If it is written into their job they shouldn't get a bonus, other people should be paid...

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[] Discussed five year limitation of maintenance awards. "I favor this five year limitation. I would ~~p~~ favor revising the standards in the grading (higher scales)."

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[]...we are going to take a look at the grading system...

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25X1A [] Intermediate should be of some use to the Agency.

25X1A [] Discussed problem of grading oral tests...

The oral test could be and will be structured more.

Mr. Baird: On the recommendations, what can we do without changing the records?

25X1A [] (1) five year limitation -- change by announcement--put on the agenda of Career Council (2) adding new languages -- no coordination needed (3) determining what is intermediate -- no coordination needed (4) cognate language -- regulation change

All agreed on a meeting next Thursday,, 9 April at 0930--Mr. Baird suggested the recommendations be written in terms of those that can be accomplished by announcement, Career Council, regulation change...

25X1A [] Discussed payment of awards. "Presuming there is no change in the regulation, my guess would be we will go up 50% next year. Say \$350,000--achievement and maintenance. "

Mr. Baird: There are people who are studying languages and will never use them...

25X1A [] We should set up higher standards in the voluntary program.

We could specify the voluntary languages that would be appropriate.

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Awards - DDI

(Since Beginning of Program)

FDD	122
ORR	117
OCI	58
OCR	45
OSI	40
DDI	36
<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; display: inline-block;"></div>	28
OBI	18
OO/C	6
ONE	2
PIC	1
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TOTAL	473
(Achievement 205; Maintenance 268)	

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